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BSF personnel celebrate Holi at RS Pura sector in Jammu | ANI

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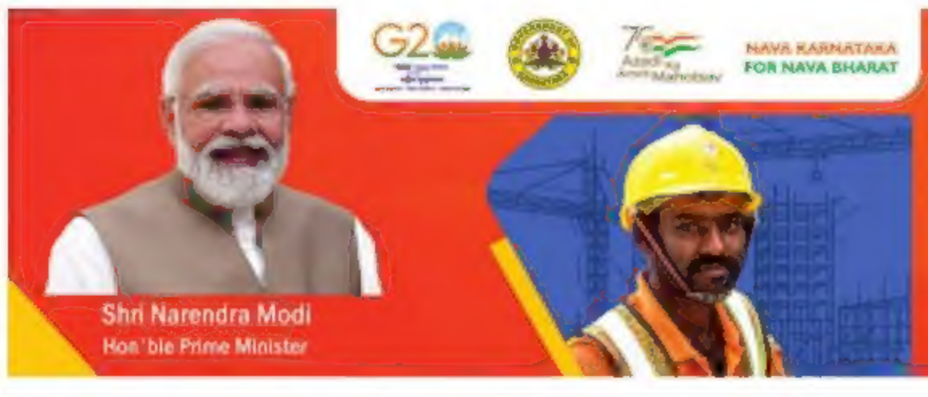
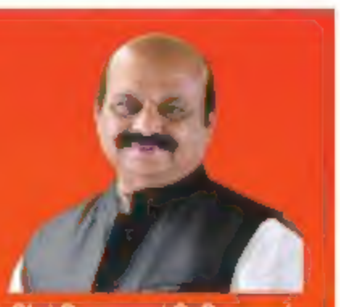


NAVA KARNATAKA FOR NAVA BHARAT

Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister

Many Steps for the Welfare of Labourers

- In 2022-23, more than 5,11,687 labourers registered as beneficiaries of the Karnataka Building And Other Construction Workers Welfare Board.
- During 2022-23, 26,25,335 beneficiaries have availed benefits worth Rs. 1,718.62 crore under various schemes.
- Upgrading ESI Hospitals at Hubballi and Davanagere from 50 to 100 beds and starting ESI Dispensaries at 19 new places.
- The board has taken steps to set up 100 hi-tech mobile health clinics for construction and related workers at cost of Rs. 129 crore.
- A revolutionary step has been taken to regularize the services of 11,333 Pourakarmikas under DBT.



Shri Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister

karnataka information

BRS workers uneasy after the arrest of Hyd bizman in liquor scam

IREDDY SRINIVAS REDDY
@ Hyderabad

WITH the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Tuesday arresting Hyderabad-based businessman and 'South Group' frontman Arun Ramachandra Pillai in connection with the Delhi excise policy scam, the cadre of the ruling Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) are getting uneasy.

For, the ED alleged that Pillai was acting on behalf of Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao's daughter and BRS MLC K Kavitha, when he managed to get excise tenders under the revamped Delhi liquor policy. He was allegedly involved in the tweaking of the excise policy at the formulation stage.

The ED claimed he was one of the beneficiaries of kickbacks, which he laundered subsequently. A special court allowed ED to interrogate him in its custody till March 13.

The ED alleged that Pillai had siphoned off ₹32.8 crore so far in the excise case and about ₹25.5 crore was "directly transferred" in his bank account.

The CBI had in December last recorded Kavitha's statement as a witness in the scam.

The ED had earlier alleged that Kavitha had destroyed evidence in mobile phones and claimed that she had taken part in several meetings with liquor barons in Delhi and Hyderabad. As for Pillai, the ED has already questioned him over a dozen times but found him non-cooperative so far.

For her part, Kavitha has denied any role in the scam and alleged it was a political witch-hunt.

BJP red-faced over graft accused MLA's revelry

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru/Davanagere

TUESDAY posed further embarrassment for the BJP over its graft-accused MLA from Channagiri in Davanagere district, Madal Virupakshappa, who after five days resurfaced when Karnataka High Court granted him ad-interim anticipatory bail, and returned to his constituency to a rousing welcome and celebrations by his followers. A red-faced BJP — which was already rattled by the Lokayukta raid in the run-up to the polls — warned him against such celebrations in the face of corruption charges likely to dent the party's image.

The Lokayukta raid on March 2 in Bengaluru found Rs 8 crore in the office of his son, Prashanth Madal, Chief Accounts Officer at Bangalore Water Supply & Sewerage Board (BWSSB). While anxieties over the impending impact of the corruption charge ran high, Virupakshappa anticipated his expulsion from the party while remaining defiant, claiming that the Rs 8 crore found by the Lokayukta police rightfully belonged to him. "The money seized by Lokayukta sleuths is accounted money and we are going to give proper evidence for all the money and are going to get it back from them," he told reporters at his Channakeshavapura residence in Channagiri. P4

1st woman IAF officer to head combat unit

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

TAKING a major step towards making it a gender-neutral force, the Indian Air Force on Tuesday selected Group Captain **Shaliza Dhami** to take over the command of a frontline combat unit facing Pakistan in the Western sector.

Group Captain (equivalent to Colonel in the Army) Dhami was commissioned in 2003 as a helicopter pilot and has logged over 2,800 hours of flying experience. She is the first qualified woman flying instructor in the IAF and has served as flight commander of a helicopter unit in the Western sector.

Dhami's selection highlights the IAF's efforts to provide women with more opportunities in combat and command roles. The IAF broke the glass ceiling by inducting three women officers — Avani Chaturvedi, Bhawana Kanth and Mohana Singh — into the fighter stream in July 2016. In 2018, flying officer Avani Chaturvedi became the first Indian woman pilot to fly a fighter aircraft solo by flying a MiG-21 Bison.

At present, a total of 1,875 women officers are serving in the IAF, which has opened all its branches, including the special forces unit Garud, for women. The female officers are working as weapons systems operators in Sukhoi fighters and are flying the special operations squadrons of the C-130J Hercules, C-17 strategic transport aircraft.

The IAF already has a few women commanding the static units, but they only have a supporting role and are not directly part of the combat zone. Group Captain Dhami will be in the operations area.

EXPRESS READ

NIA busts hawala ring of PFI, arrests five

Bengaluru/Mangaluru: The NIA has busted a multi-state hawala network of banned terror outfit PFI and arrested five hawala operators in last year's Phulwari Sharif, Bihar, PFI case | P5

CEC to visit B'luru to review poll readiness

Bengaluru: Ahead of Assembly polls, Chief Election Commissioner of India Rajiv Kumar along with other officials will be in Bengaluru for three days from March 9 to review poll preparations | P4

CBI questions Lalu in railway jobs scam

RAMASHANKAR @ Patna

THE CBI on Tuesday questioned RJD chief and former railway minister Lalu Prasad for nearly six hours in connection with the land-for-jobs scam case. The CBI interrogated Lalu at the New Delhi residence of his eldest daughter and Rajya Sabha MP Misa Bharti. According to the prosecution, those seeking railway jobs either gifted or sold land plots to the Lalu family when the RJD chief was the railway minister.

Sources said Lalu replied only to a few questions. Misa Bharti was also present during her father's questioning.

On Monday, the CBI had interrogated Lalu's wife and former Bihar CM Rabri Devi in the same case in which Misa Bharti is also an accused.

Lalu had returned to India on February 11 after his kidney transplant in Singapore. Lalu's second daughter Rohini Acharya, who is based in Singapore, accused the agency of 'harassing' her ailing father.

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1- Int J Cosmet Sci. 2021;43(Suppl 1):1-8. 2- Indian Journal of Dermatology. April 2006. 3- Lukacs 1992. 4- Ref for pH 5.5: . Test report based on an independent lab accredited by NABL. 5- All pictures are for illustration purpose only.
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CHHATTISGARH

Millets on Mission Mode

The Chhattisgarh Government has transformed a traditional dietary requirement into a contemporary must-grow crop

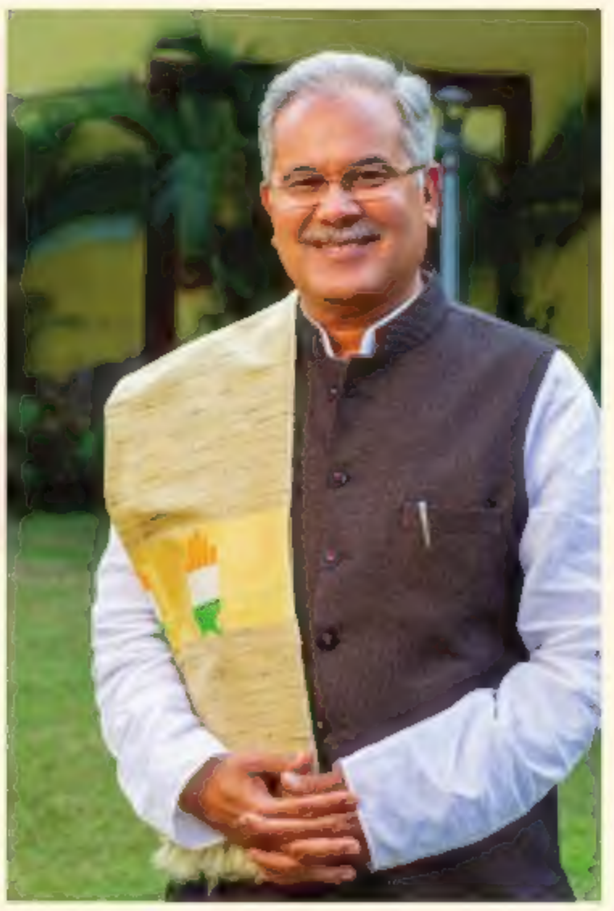
GROW MORE, EAT BETTER, PROMOTE SMARTER

Chhattisgarh is emerging as a millet hub under the leadership of Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel

In just nine months, Raigarh's Millet Cafe has gained popularity at the national level

Millet dishes to be served in Anganwadi and mid-day meals

The area under millets in Chhattisgarh has increased one and a half times and production has also increased



The biggest processing plant of millets has also been set up at Nathia-Navagaon in Kanker district

To promote millets, millet processing plants are being set up in rural industrial parks

Kodo, kutki, and ragi are procured at support price in Chhattisgarh

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